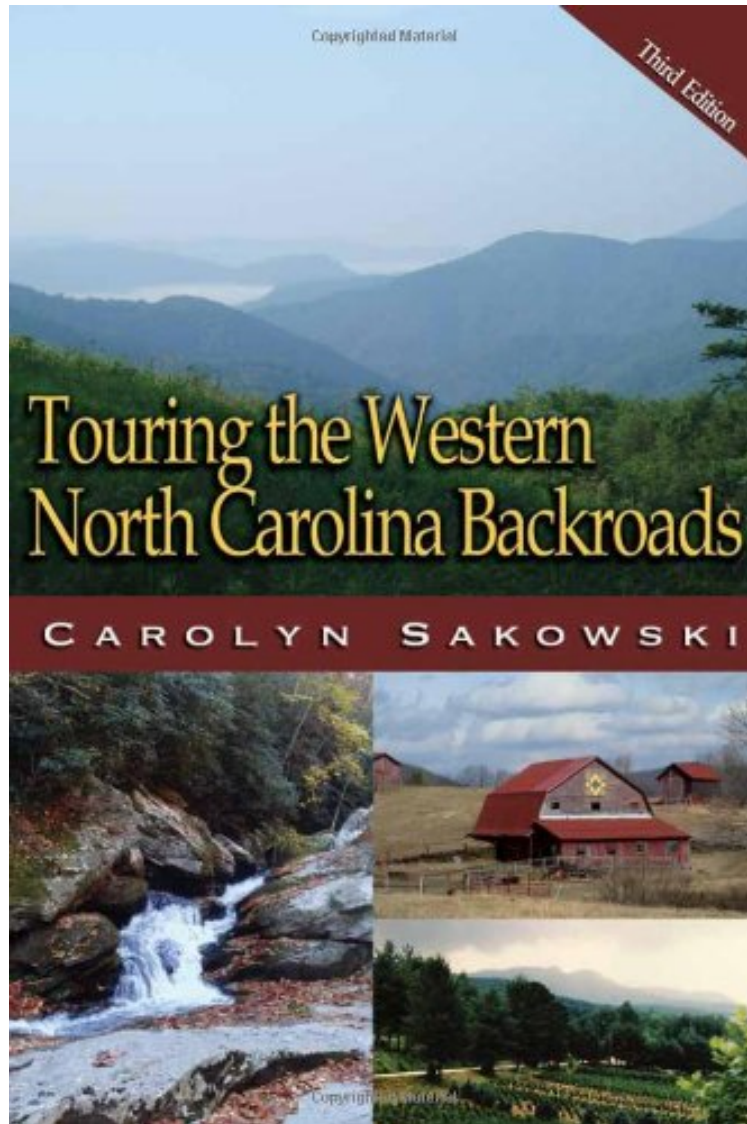


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Touring the Western North Carolina Backroads (Touring the Backroads)

Carolyn Sakowski

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Carolyn Sakowski : Touring the Western North Carolina Backroads (Touring the Backroads) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Touring the Western North Carolina Backroads (Touring the Backroads):

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Not a General Guide By Justarasta I hate to be negative but I was looking for a guide that would discuss various areas in Western NC. Am I better going to Highlands or Blowing Rock?

Why? What is to be found in each area? Well if you're looking for that kind of information don't look here. Wish I could have read my own review before I bought this book. Fortunately no trees were killed as I bought the Kindle version so fret not. Anyway there is some interesting and specific information and the process to develop it required some real work and research. Unfortunately, at least for me, without more global information about the places it discusses in great detail, this book was not of use to me. 8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. More quality from John F. Blair Publishers

By Jon L Albee I had purchased quite a few of Blair's publications before I notice they had something in common. First, not only are these guidebooks of high quality, covering regions of Appalachia that are of particular interest to me, but they are all published by the same press - John F. Blair of Winston-Salem. Virginia's Shenandoah Valley and Southwest, Northeastern Tennessee, and the Western North Carolina mountains and, DING, the light bulb came on! These are good books, across the board! This one is now in its third edition, and is a real gem of a guide. Like the other books in the Blair series, this guide is organized into driving tours which emphasize architectural and natural landmarks along each route. They are NOT pragmatic guidebooks in terms of listings of restaurants, hotels, and tourist attractions. They are more cultural and historical guides, to give you a feeling for the meaning of the land you're traveling. They provide the contexts to pique your interest and leave the lodging and eating, generally, to other sources. My one criticism of this book is slight: The guide focusses entirely on the rural areas and tiny villages along your routes. You don't get much feedback about the lovely towns in this region, including such places as Boone, Brevard, Asheville, Morganton, Hendersonville, Waynesboro, and Wilkesboro. Sakowski, the dedicated and skilled author, really wants to keep this book focused on country, and it shows. Blowing Rock and Highlands, as important resort centers, get a bit more page space. I know this region, literally, like the back of my hand, and I can assure any reader that what they will find here is a well-written, accurate, comprehensive, and enjoyable book. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Disappointing

By ErinH1E either I didn't notice it or it's been added. But now the description shows this book was written in 1991! That's over 25 years ago, the pages were yellowed although the book was new/unused. Few pictures were black white. Not what one wants in a tourism guide book. Likely suggested stores, places mentioned are now closed. This book might be good for a local person who wants to investigate the local, hidden scenic/historic spots extensively. I returned even tho the refund will be minimal. Not sure I ever received a refund actually.

Have you ever been to the mountains of western North Carolina and wanted to see the scenery but escape the crowds? Maybe you were tempted to take off down a side road but hesitated, fearful of getting lost. Now, Touring the Western North Carolina Backroads can help you make that escape. The book's 21 tours cover the entire mountain region of western North Carolina and provide numerous opportunities for seeing unspoiled landscapes and pastoral scenes. But scenery is not the only focus. Once you're on the backroads, you might speculate about the history behind the old white clapboard farmhouse that dominates the valley ahead, or you might wonder about the rest of the story behind the two sentences on the historical marker at the side of the road. Touring the Western North Carolina Backroads fills in those details. Drawing from local histories and early travel writings, each tour is designed to be a journey through the history of the ages, and stories about early settlers combine to present a perspective that makes the scenery come alive. This third edition features updated directions, additional sites, new photographs, suggested spur trips, and nearby recreational opportunities. Use this guidebook to plan your next day trip, weekend getaway, or cycling adventure!

John F. Blair's Touring the Backroads series includes travel books that literally take readers off the beaten path to historic sites and landmarks. Each book departs the highways and thoroughfares in favor of the backroads, giving directions, suggested routes, and historical details along the way. These books can be read at home, or they make excellent travel companions for those looking for something beyond the norm.